cyanide catalysis and wherein the reaction of the alkylene oxides onto the H-functional initiator substances is carried out in the presence of at least one metal salt of the formula

$$M^{(A+)}_{a}X^{(B-)}_{b}$$
, where

M is selected from at least one of Li^+ , Na^+ , K^+ , Rb^+ , Cs^+ , Be^{2^+} , Mg^{2^+} , Ca^{2^+} , Sr^{2^+} , and Ba^{2^+} ,

X is selected from at least one of F⁻, Cl⁻, ClO⁻, ClO₃⁻, ClO₄⁻, Br⁻, l⁻, IO₃⁻, CN⁻, OCN⁻, NO₂⁻, NO₃⁻, HCO₃⁻, CO₃², S², SH⁻, HSO₃⁻, SO₃², HSO₄⁻, SO₄², S₂O₂², S₂O₃², S₂O₄², S₂O₅², S₂O₆², S₂O₇², S₂O₈², H₂PO₂⁻, H₂PO₄⁻, HPO₄², PO₄³, P₂O₇⁴, (C_nH_{2n-1}O₂)⁻, (C_{n+1}H_{2n-2}O₄)² where n = 1-20 and their mixed salts and mixtures,

A⁺ is the valence of the cation,

B is the valence of the anion and

a and b are integers,

with the proviso that the compound is electrically neutral.

2. (Twice Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the metal salt $M^{(A^+)}{}_a X^{(B^-)}{}_b$ is selected such that:

$$M^{(A+)} = Li^+, Na^+, K^+, Mg^{2+}, or Ca^{2+}, and$$

$$X^{(B-)} = F^-, Cl^-, Br^-, l^-, NO_3^-, HCO_3^-, CO_3^{2-}, HSO_4^-, SO_4^{2-}, H_2PO_4^-, HPO_4^{2-}, PO_4^{3-}, (C_nH_{2n-1}O_2)^-, or $(C_{n+1}H_{2n-2}O_4)^{2-}$ where $n = 1-20$$$

and their mixed salts and mixtures, where

A⁺ is the valence of the cation,

B is the valence of the anion and

a and b are integers,

with the proviso that the compound is electrically neutral.

- 5. (Amended) A process as claimed in claims 1 or 2, wherein the metal salt is used in an amount of from 0.1 to 50 ppm, based on the compound having at least two active hydrogen atoms.
- 6. (Twice Amended) A polyurethane produced according to any one of the processes as claimed in claims 1 or 2.
- 7. (Twice Amended) A flexible polyurethane foam produced according to any one of the processes as claimed in claims 1 or 2.
- 8. (Twice Amended) A polyether alcohol comprising the reaction product of H-functional compounds with alkylene oxides using multimetal cyanides as catalysts comprising at least one metal salt of the formula

$$M^{(A+)}_{a}X^{(B-)}_{b}$$
, where

M is selected from at least one of Li⁺, Na⁺, K⁺, Rb⁺, Cs⁺, Be²⁺, Mg²⁺, Ca²⁺, Sr²⁺, and Ba^{2+} ,

X is selected from at least one of F⁻, Cl⁻, ClO⁻, ClO₃⁻, ClO₄⁻, Br⁻, I⁻, IO₃⁻, CN⁻, OCN⁻, NO₂⁻, NO₃⁻, HCO₃⁻, CO₃²⁻, S²⁻, SH⁻, HSO₃⁻, SO₃²⁻, HSO₄⁻, SO₄²⁻, S₂O₂²⁻, S₂O₃²⁻, S₂O₄²⁻, S₂O₅²⁻, S₂O₆²⁻, S₂O₇²⁻, S₂O₈²⁻, H₂PO₂⁻, H₂PO₄⁻, HPO₄²⁻, PO₄³⁻, P₂O₇⁴⁻, (C_nH_{2n-1}O₂)⁻, (C_{n+1}H_{2n-2}O₄)² where n = 1-20 and their mixed salts and mixtures,

A⁺ is the valence of the cation,

B is the valence of the anion and

a and b are integers,

with the proviso that the compound is electrically neutral.